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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re.the Application of

Makoto KOBAYASHI ET AL.

Group Art Unit: 3723

Application No.: 09/830,434

Examiner: H. Shakeri

Filed: April 26, 2001

Docket No.: 109352

For: POLISHING PAD AND POLISHING METHOD FOR SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

☒ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

- ☒ 2. U.S. Patent No. 5,733,177 is an equivalent of Taiwanese 314485 (i.e., it is in the same family as Taiwanese 314485).

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: December 31, 2002

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